

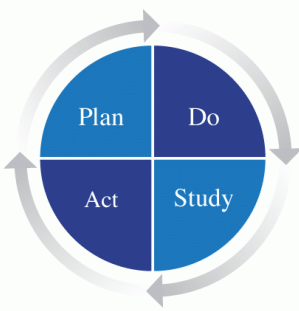


# Conducting Chronic Quality Improvement, Years 1-3

**Project Goal:** Use the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) quality improvement process to improve a blood pressure-related health outcome for clinic patients.

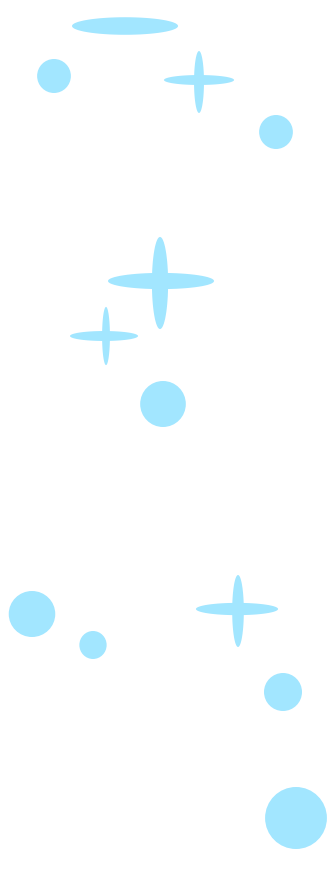


## Clinic Characteristics



	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Clinic type	3 - Primary care 2 - Rural Health Clinic 1 - Tribal Health	6 - Rural Health Clinic 1 - Primary care	2 - Primary Care
Location	3 - Rural 3 - Urban	6 - Rural 1 - Urban	2 - Urban

## Type of QI Strategies



- Develop standardize protocols/practices
  - Hypertension protocol
  - Blood pressure (BP) re-checks
- Implement self-measured blood pressure monitoring (SMBP)
- Implement Care Management
- Use Electronic Health Record (EHR) data and data analytics
  - Patient identification
  - Add BP control to dashboard
  - Clinical decision support (e.g., reminder system)
- Improve follow-up with elevated BPs
- Increase pharmacist referrals
- Enhance standardize workflow
  - Schedule patient follow-up visits
  - Referrals (e.g., pharmacist, care management, etc.)
- Offer staff training/education
  - Accurate BP measurement
- Offer patient training/education
  - Life style
  - Accurate BP measurement

## Facilitators



- Physician Champion
- Dedicated staff
- Provider/staff buy-in and engagement
- Standardized protocols and training
- Leadership support
- Hypertension as a priority
- Use of data and data analytics (e.g. Dashboard, code to bill BP education and SMBP)
- Communication
- Being proactive

## Barriers



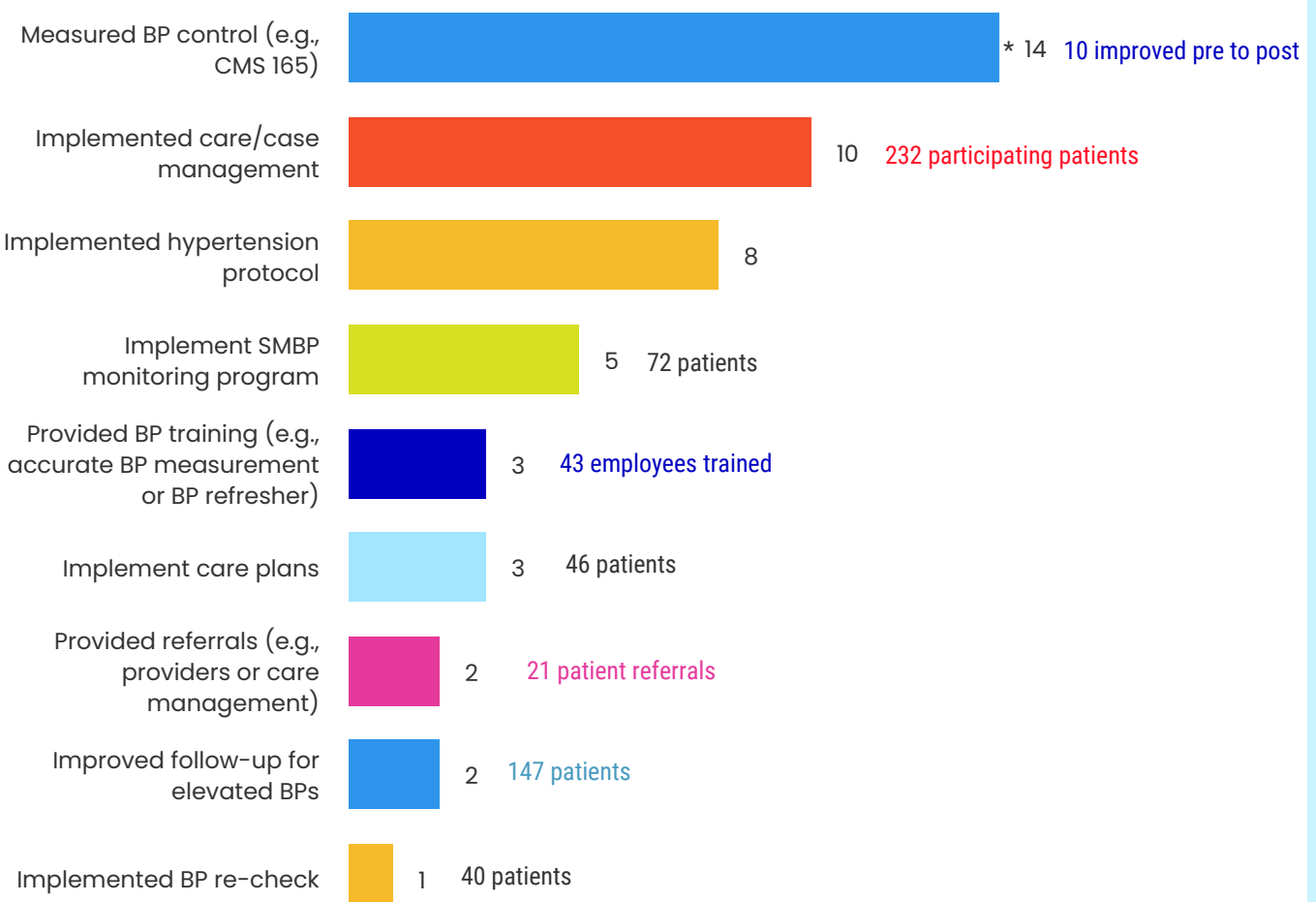
- COVID-19
- Provider buy-in
- Consensus of BP targets and protocols
- Competing priorities
- Provider/staff unfamiliar with all available programs (e.g., SMBP, Chronic Care Model, etc.)
- Use of data and data analytics
- Poor attendance at patient follow-up appointments
- Inconsistent scheduling of follow-up appointments
- Medication stops/changes not communicated on discharge

## Sustainability



- Make SMBP a standard of care
- Implement population health model to identify care gaps
- Keep hypertension a priority
- Include hypertension on quality measure dashboard
- Offer BP re-checks
- Increase referrals (e.g., pharmacist, care management, etc.)
- Offer BP walk-in clinic
- Implement and continue Care Management
- Use reimbursable services

## Results - 15 Participating Clinics



\*14 of 15 clinics were able to obtain pre-/post-data.